

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 AUG 2004



(43) International Publication Date
4 September 2003 (04.09.2003)

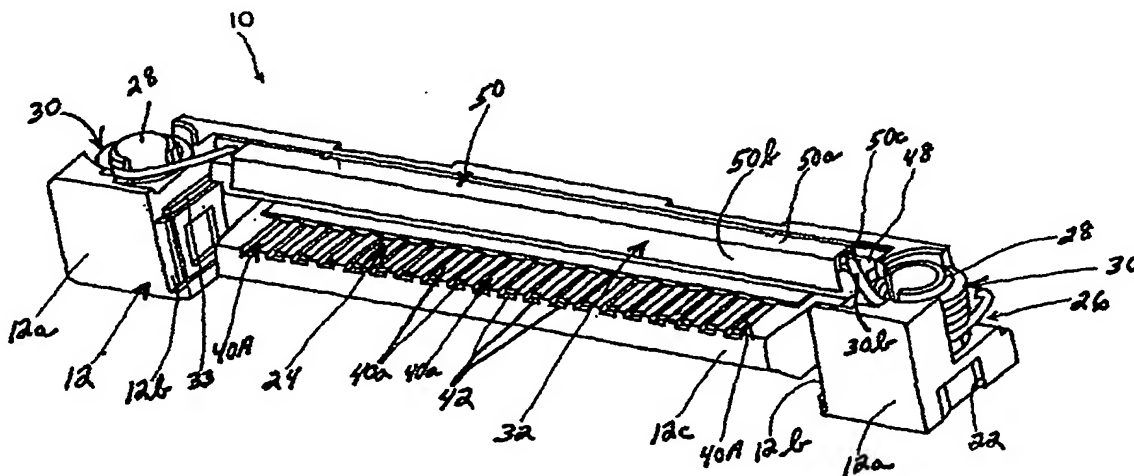
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/073559 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: H01R 13/648, 13/453
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- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US03/05915
- (22) International Filing Date: 26 February 2003 (26.02.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
49030/2002 26 February 2002 (26.02.2002) JP
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- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:
— with international search report
— with amended claims

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR WITH GROUNDED SHUTTER MEMBER



(57) Abstract: An electrical connector includes a dielectric housing having a receptacle for receiving a complementary mating connector. A plurality of conductive terminals are mounted on the housing and have contact portions exposed in the receptacle for engaging appropriate contacts of the mating connector. A metal shell is disposed about at least a portion of the housing. A shutter plate is movably mounted on the housing for movement between a closed position and an open position. In the closed position, the shutter plate substantially closes the receptacle to prevent inadvertent engagement of foreign objects with the contact portions of the terminals. In the open position, the shutter plate allows mating of the complementary mating connector. At least a portion of the shutter plate is conductive to dissipate static electricity at the receptacle. At least one spring is mounted on the housing for biasing the shutter plate toward its closed position. The spring is conductive and is electrically coupled between the conductive portion of the shutter plate and the metal shell to ground the plate to the shell.